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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Tohru HIGASHI**

Group Art Unit: **2823**

Serial No.: **10/682,299**

Examiner: **Julio J. Maldonado**

Filed: **October 10, 2003**

Confirmation No.: **8805**

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR
DEVICE**

Attorney Docket Number: **032030**
Customer Number: **38834**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 22, 2005

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated March 23, 2005.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group I (Claims 1-12), and Group II (Claims 13-22).

Applicant hereby elects the subject matter of Group I, Claims (1-12) for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, and it is understood that Applicant's rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §120 and 35 U.S.C. §121 are retained.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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